P V Sindhu settles for another Bronze in World Badminton Championship 2014

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(Spain's Carolina Marin, second from right, with Gold Medal China's Xuerui Li, right, and Bronze winners, India's P. V. Sindhu, far left, and Japan's Minatsu Mitani, after the Women's Singles final match at the World Badminton Championships – 2014)

Copenhagen: P V Sindhu on Saturday suffered a heartbreak at the World Badminton Championship as she had to settle for a second consecutive Bronze Medal after succumbing to Carolina Marin of Spain in straight games at the Semifinals in Copenhagen on Saturday.

A Bronze Medallist at the last edition, Sindhu had conjured up hopes of bettering the colour of her Medal this year but she could not produce the same resilience and grit which saw her edged out sixth seed Korean Yeon Ju Bae and All England Champion Shixian Wang in the last two rounds.

The 19-year-old thus became the first Badminton player to win two Bronze Medals at the World Championship. Badminton Legend Prakash Padukone had won the Men's Singles Bronze in 1983, while Jwala Gutta and Ashwini Ponnappa won Bronze in Women's Doubles in 2011.

Playing only her second World Championship, Sindhu, who won a Bronze at the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow early this month, could not find a way out of the long fast-paced rallies played by the left-handed Marin.

Sindhu looked good in the first game as she wiped off a 2-6 deficit to move to 8-6 in one serve. But Marin slowly gained control with her tactical play and zoomed ahead after the mandatory break. She soon led 18-11 thereby making it difficult for the Indian to come back into the game.

In the second game, Sindhu stayed close till the 13th point and even led her rival on a few occa-sions. But Marin took the crucial lead with a four-point burst at 1216 and never looked back.

Nevertheless, it was a great effort from Sindhu to win back-to-back Medals. Given her struggles with form in the past 12 months, the performance at the World Championship will bolster her confidence.
